

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action mailed November 27, 2009, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 11, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by van Oort et al. (USP 6,101,815).

Claims 16-26 are allowed. Claims 2-6, 9, and 13-15 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Such indication is appreciated.

Claim 1 has been amended herein. Claim 2 has been canceled. Claim 27 is newly added herein.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

As noted above, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 11, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by van Oort et al. (USP 6,101,815). While Applicant does not necessarily agree with the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), Applicant has nonetheless elected to amend claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 2 (now canceled). Accordingly, Applicant believes that claim 1, and all claims dependent therefrom, are allowable over the prior art of record. Applicant has also added a new independent claim that incorporates the subject matter of original claim 1 and the allowable subject matter of claim 3. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 11, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

Therefore, in light of at least the foregoing, Applicant respectfully believes that the present application is in condition for allowance. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 1 and 3-26, and new claim 27.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration of these Amendments and Remarks and cordially invites the Examiner to call the undersigned, should the Examiner consider any matters unresolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney Docket No.: GEMS8081.237

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General Authorization and Extension of Time

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-0845. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by credit card authorization being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 07-0845. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extensions under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 07-0845. Please consider this a general authorization to charge any fee that is due in this case, if not otherwise timely paid, to Deposit Account No. 07-0845.

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